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HS-5 Plane Guards IKE



Photo by MC2(SW) Kenneth R. Hendrix



Photo by MC2(SW) Kenneth R. Hendrix

Above, crewmen from the "Nightdippers" of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (HS) 5 simulate a night deployment search and rescue exercise as an SH-60F Seahawk hovers 70 feet from the water.

Left, AWR2(AC) Kyle Need, left, and AWR3(AC) David Bellows, both from HS-5, observe flight operations, while on 'plane guard', as the helicopter hovers close to the aircraft carrier, ready to rescue the occupants of any aircraft that might ditch on take off or landing.

By MC2(SW) Kenneth R. Hendrix
5 Star Staff Writer

On the flight deck of the Nimitz-Class aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) (IKE), the helicopter known as the SH-60F Seahawk has taken roost.

Lined up on the flight deck with its blades folded out, the twin-engine helicopter assigned to the "Nightdippers" of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (HS) 5 lifts off, hovers and flies off.

Almost 20 years after its first test into the Navy, the Seahawk is poised to provide surface and under sea warfare, search and rescue, medical evacuation, vertical replenishment, Naval surface fire support and communications relay while add-

ing one more special mission to the mix, "plane guard."

Plane guard is a rescue mission that is airborne any time IKE is launching or recovering, said Lt. Daniel Person of HS-5.

"Today we went out and flew plane guard because anytime jets, carrier on-board delivery (COD) planes or any kind of aircraft are flying around launching and recovering, we need to be airborne for search and rescue," Person said. "After the COD's arrival and departure around noon we decided to stay out and conduct some search and rescue training."

The crew aboard the helicopter consisted of two pilots and two air crewmen as sensor operators, one of whom was fully dressed out in a wetsuit as the search and

rescue swimmer ready at all times for rescue operations.

Naval Air Crewman 3rd Class (AC) David Bellows of HS-5, the search and rescue swimmer during the training exercise, said practicing search and rescue scenarios gives him the experience he needs for when the unexpected happens.

"Since the sea state was high today we did a 15 and zero hoist," said Bellows. "Basically we hovered the helo 15 feet over the water at zero knots and deployed the swimmer. And, I also received training on how to run the hoist from the crew chief."

A few miles away from IKE the crew found a spot to conduct the training and Bellows tossed a marine locator marker into the Red Sea.

The marker is used to mark a survivor's location in the water. A flare that's part of the marker helps pilots and search and rescue swimmers find the person in the water, especially at night.

The flare is an indicator of wind direction, so the helo can approach and hover over the individual going into the wind, said Naval Air Crewman 2nd Class (AC) Kyle Need of HS-5, the crew chief during the training exercise.

"It's important to practice as much as possible. Some us have been caught in situations where we are flying plane guard and nothing is really going on, then all of sud-

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Keeping IKE Cool in 5th Fleet Heat

By MC3 Nathan Parde
5 Star Staff Writer

As the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) (IKE) transits through the Red Sea further into 5th fleet to support maritime security operations, the rising temperatures will affect both service members and ship's systems.

IKE's Engineering Department, A-division damage control petty officers will have the difficult task of maintaining 10 air conditioning (A/C) units and the ship's fan rooms, which are two

systems that work together in providing Sailors relief from the heat.

"The 363-ton A/C unit manufactured by York is named for the amount of heat that it can remove from a space within a certain period of time," said Machinist's Mate 2nd Class (SW) Selwyn Johnson. "One ton represents the amount of time it would take for a ton of ice to melt. That amount of time depends on how well the boundaries are maintained in the ship."

Chief Machinist's Mate (SW/AW) Charles Rogers, leading

chief petty officer of IKE's air conditioning and refrigeration shop, compared the air boundary left open on a ship to a refrigerator that is wide-open when the power goes out.

"It's not about letting the cold air out, it's about letting the hot air in," said Rogers. "We can't cool the outside, but we can cool within a boundary."

The chill water pipes that run throughout the ship are the key factor to IKE's cooling system,

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Photo by MC3 Nathan Parde

From left, MMC(SW/AW) Charles Rogers, MMFN Patrick Pastore, MM2 Michael Robinson, MMFN Andres Peña, MM3 Daniel Crawford, MM2(SW) Selwyn Johnson and MM1 Kristie D. Robinson man IKE's air conditioning and refrigeration shop.

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Weather
Partly Cloudy
Highs to 81
Lows to 73
Sunrise 0608
Sunset 1813



Caring for Veterans Is a Matter of American Honor

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON—Caring for veterans is a responsibility and duty for all Americans, and the employees at the Department of Veterans Affairs are those who are charged with repaying “that debt of honor,” President Barack Obama said during a ceremony here marking the department’s 20th anniversary today.

The president promised the VA employees that he will make good on his promise to create a 21st-century department.

VA, formerly called the Veterans Administration, became a cabinet-level department in 1989. The employees are charged with providing education, training benefits, health care, home loans and cemeteries for American veterans. “It’s a commitment that lasts from the day our veterans retire that uniform to the day that they are put to rest, and it continues on for their families,” the president said.

U.S. service members are the country’s best and brightest, Obama said. “They are our bravest, enlisting in a time of war, enduring tour after tour of duty, serving with honor under the most difficult circumstances and making sacrifices that many of us cannot begin to imagine,” he said. The department must take care of these people and of their families, he added.

The VA mission always is vital, Obama said, but it is even more so during long and difficult conflicts like today’s. “Last month, I announced my strategy for ending the war in Iraq, and I made it very clear that this strategy would not end with the military plans and diplo-

matic agendas, but would endure through my commitment to upholding our sacred trust with every man and woman who has served this country,” the president said. “And the same holds true for our troops serving in Afghanistan.”

The president has requested an extra \$25 billion for the department over the next five years. The agency – under the leadership of retired Army Gen. Eric K. Shinseki, former Army chief of staff – is reviewing its operations.

“With this budget, we don’t just fully fund our VA health care program,” the president said. “We expand it to serve an additional 500,000 veterans by 2013, to provide better health care in more places and to dramatically improve services related to mental health and injuries like post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury.”

Obama said technology also will help to cut red tape and ease the transition from active duty. He promised new help for homeless veterans, “because those heroes have a home.”

“It’s the country they served -- the United States of America,” he said. “And until we reach a day when not a single veteran sleeps on our nation’s streets, our work remains unfinished.”

He called on VA employees to help to implement the GI Bill for the 21st century. Just as the veterans of World War II formed the backbone of the progress after that war, the veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan too, can be the catalyst for progress. The deadline for putting the rules for the new GI Bill in place is Aug. 1.

“That’s how we’ll show our service-men and women that when you come



Photo by Lance Cpl. Michael J. Ayotte

President of the United States Barack Obama talks to service members and civilians during his visit to Camp Lejeune, N.C.

home to America, America will be here for you,” Obama said. “That’s how we will ensure that those who have borne the battle, and their families, will have every chance to live out their dreams.”

Transforming the agency is a tall or-

der, Obama said, but he added that he has the fullest confidence that the men and women of the department can do it.

The United States will “fulfill our sacred trust and serve our returning heroes as well as they’ve served us,” he said.

• CHILL, From Page 1

said Johnson. When water is drawn aboard the ship, it is approximately between 75 and 80 degrees. A machine called the ‘chiller’ uses refrigerant to absorb the heat from the seawater and cools the chill water to about 44 degrees. Chilled water is then sent to cycle around the ship, cooling the spaces that lie within the ship’s air boundaries.

“As the cold chill water makes its way throughout the ship, it absorbs the heat in compartment spaces,” said Rogers. “Heat goes from hot to cold, so a heat transfer occurs and the spaces cool as the chill water warms.”

As chill water passes through one of IKE’s fan rooms, the fan coil units blow air across the chill water pipes, cooling the space in the process, said Johnson.

“If the temperature in automated data processing rooms gets too high, they have to shut their equipment down, along with the ship’s electronic mailing system,” said Rogers.

However, it should never come to that—as long as the crew maintains A/C boundaries to keep spaces at comfortable temperatures, said Johnson.

“If you keep the doors closed and keep the ship tight, we can keep you cool.”

• GUARD, From Page 1

den we’re actually conducting a search and rescue,” Need said. “It’s happened to me before and few of the other air crewmen in the shop too.”

Need added that crewmen cannot become complacent because “you always have to be ready at all times.”

Quality Assurance



Photo by MC2(SW) Kenneth R. Hendrix

AM2 Brandon Abreu and AE1 Shawn Diggs both assigned to the “Nightdippers” of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (HS) 5, conduct a rescue hoister check on an SH-60F helicopter for quality assurance on the flight deck.

IKE’s Weekly Chapel Services

Sunday

8:30 a.m. Catholic Mass *Foc’sle*
8:30 a.m. Lutheran Communion Services *Chapel*
10 a.m. General Protestant worship *Foc’sle*
11:15 a.m. Gospel Service *Foc’sle*
7:30 p.m. Officer Christian Fellowship *WR III Lounge*

Monday

11 a.m. Catholic Mass *Chapel*
12:15 p.m. Intercessory Prayer

Tuesday

11 a.m. Catholic Mass *Chapel*
7 p.m. Bible Study *Chapel*
8 p.m. Catholic Religious Education Class *Chapel*

Wednesday

11 a.m. Catholic Mass *Chapel*
12 p.m. Midweek Protestant Fellowship *Chapel*
4 p.m. Catholic Devotion
7:30 p.m. Officer Christian Fellowship *WR III Lounge*
7:30 p.m. Bible Study

Thursday

11 a.m. Catholic Mass *Chapel*
1 p.m. Friends of Bill W *Chapel*

Friday

11 a.m. Catholic Mass *Chapel*
2 p.m. Basic Korean Language Class *Chapel*
7 p.m. Jewish Sabbath Services *Chapel*
8 p.m. Gospel Choir Practice *Chapel*

Saturday

11 a.m. Seventh-day Adventist Fellowship *Chapel*
5 p.m. Catholic Mass *Chapel*
6 p.m. Friends of Bill W *Chapel*
7 p.m. Protestant Choir Practice *Chapel*
7:30 p.m. Gospel Choir Practice *Foc’sle*



Yeoman

YN SA Chris Adams

Department/Division:
Reactor/RA

Hometown:
Kansas City, Missouri

Entered Navy:
March 26, 2008

“ I work with the Reactor Officer and my primary duty is to take care of administrative jobs like evaluations, awards, leave chits and security clearances. I absolutely love my job because I enjoy the people I work with and doing paper work. I tend to work best under pressure and working for the Reactor Officer is one of the best jobs you can have as a Yeoman. **”**

In N.C.A.A. Tournament, the Stars Aren't Out Venezuela Advances

Times Digest

This year's N.C.A.A. tournament could be awash in buzzer beaters and competitive games. But it is also likely to feature a lower caliber of basketball than last season.

The schools among the top seeds are familiar including North Carolina, Connecticut and Louisville but the level of the talent wearing their uniforms is different. Interviews with N.B.A. personnel, college coaches and various draft experts show that this tournament offers a drastic drop-off in elite talent.

The N.B.A. is bracing for one of the worst drafts this decade, which is especially glaring when compared with last year's star-studded class led by Derrick Rose, O. J. Mayo and Kevin Love.

"Last year, anybody in the top 10 was

guaranteed they were going to get a player that could contribute," Mike Dunleavy, the Los Angeles Clippers' coach and general manager, said of teams in the N.B.A. draft. "This year, the way I'm hearing it, that's not necessarily the case."

Last year's Final Four, which for the first time featured all four No. 1 seeds, was a showcase for N.B.A. talent. The draft's top pick, Rose, was a point guard who led Memphis to the cusp of the championship. Five players from Kansas, the eventual national champion, were drafted.

After the first few picks in this year's draft in June, which will almost surely be led by the Oklahoma sophomore Blake Griffin, there are a lot of questions.

An N.B.A. rule that essentially requires players to go to college for a year has invigorated the talent in the college game since it came into effect in 2006. But

the current freshman class has been particularly weak.

Who benefits most from the lack of elite college talent? Seemingly, the glut of teams that were on the N.C.A.A. bubble. The Big Ten is the most glaring example of this, with seven teams making the tournament despite a distinct lack of N.B.A.-level talent.

The elite teams Oklahoma, North Carolina and Connecticut are the ones with N.B.A. talent. After the top few, however, the rest could trade places. "What I see is four to eight elite teams, and then beyond that, a lot of mixing and matching between 10 and 40," Big Ten Commissioner Jim Delany said.

That means a lot of teams with middling talent. And although the uniforms may look familiar, the talent level in this N.C.A.A. tournament will not be.

Times Digest

M IAMI GARDENS, FLA. — Francisco Rodriguez got another four-out save to help Venezuela tame Puerto Rico, 2-0, in the World Baseball Classic on Monday.

Venezuela advances to the semifinals. Puerto Rico will play the United States on Tuesday to decide the other semifinalist from this pool.

Virginia Coach Quits

C HARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — Dave Leitao resigned Monday as Virginia's men's basketball coach. Virginia finished 10-18, 11th in the A.C.C. It was the Cavaliers' worst record since they went 9-17 in 1967-68.

MLB SCORES

MONDAY	
Rockies 8, Diamondbacks 3	
Royals 11, White Sox 7	Cardinals 6, Tigers 7
Mariners 1, Indians 4	Orioles 3, Twins 5
Cubs 6, Brewers 9	Red Sox 6, Blue Jays 4
Dodgers 8, Athletics 10	Nationals 3, Marlins 1
Mariners 4, Dodgers 3 (10)	Phillies 0, Yankees 12
Angels 8, Giants 5	Rays 6, Pirates 4

NBA SCORES

MONDAY	
Raptors 86, Bobcats 112	
Spurs 76, Thunder 78	
Nets 96, Nuggets 121	
Rockets 95, Hornets 84	
Trail Blazers 103, Grizzlies 92	



ANNOUNCEMENTS



MARCH DEPLOYMENT FITNESS CALENDAR

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

		18 0530- FEP- Foc'sle 0530- SPIN- Beginner 0900- Body Cond. AFT Gym 1400- T. Body Wpn. Windlass 1600. EOD- Hangar Bay 2 1630- SPIN- Int/ Advanced 1730- Spartan- Hangar Bay	19 0530-FEP- Foc'sle 0530- SPIN- Beginner/ Int 1630- SPIN-Int/ Adanced 1730- Body Sculpt- HB2 1845- Contender- Fwd Gym	20 0530- FEP- Foc'sle 0530- SPIN- Beginner 0900- Body Cond. AFT Gym 1400- T. Body Wpn. Windlass 1600. EOD- Hangar Bay 2 1630- SPIN- Int/ Advanced 1730- Spartan- Hangar Bay 2
23 0530- FEP- Foc'sle 0530- SPIN- Beginner 0900- Body Cond. AFT Gym 1400- T. Body Wpn. Windlass 1600. EOD- Hangar Bay 2 1630- SPIN- Int/ Advanced 1730- Spartan- Hangar Bay 2	24 0530-FEP- Foc'sle 0530- SPIN- Beginner/ Int 1630- SPIN-Int/ Adanced 1730- Body Sculpt- HB2 1845- Contender- Fwd Gym	25 0530- FEP- Foc'sle 0530- SPIN- Beginner 0900- Body Cond. AFT Gym 1400- T. Body Wpn. Windlass 1600. EOD- Hangar Bay 2 1630- SPIN- Int/ Advanced 1730- Spartan- Hangar Bay 2	26 0530-FEP- Foc'sle 0530- SPIN- Beginner/ Int 1630- SPIN-Int/ Adanced 1730- Body Sculpt- HB2 1845- Contender- Fwd Gym	27 0530- FEP- Foc'sle 0530- SPIN- Beginner 0900- Body Cond. AFT Gym 1400- T. Body Wpn. Windlass 1600. EOD- Hangar Bay 2 1630- SPIN- Int/ Advanced 1730- Spartan- Hangar Bay 2
30 0530- FEP- Foc'sle 0530- SPIN- Beginner 0900- Body Cond. AFT Gym 1400- T. Body Wpn. Windlass 1600. EOD- Hangar Bay 2 1630- SPIN- Int/ Advanced 1730- Spartan- Hangar Bay 2	31 0530-FEP- Foc'sle 0530- SPIN- Beginner/ Int 1630- SPIN-Int/ Adanced 1730- Body Sculpt- HB2 1845- Contender- Fwd Gym			
<h1>ONE TEAM, ONE GOAL</h1>				

United Through Reading Sign-Ups Now Available

- Sailors can now sign-up for sessions for the United Through Reading program using Outlook by going to the public folders tab, all public folders and clicking the UTR Reader's calendar.
- Filming sessions are 30 minutes each in either the TV Studio (with Dora and Diego backdrop) or the USS Eisenhower Room.
- Filming times/location (subject to change due to ships schedule, please be flexible):
- USS Eisenhower Room: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- TV Studio: 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.
- Children's books are available for checkout at the ship's library (03-118-10-L). It is highly recommended that Sailors read the book prior to the filming session. Sailors can also bring their own books.
- For more information, contact RPC Music at J-6450.

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WEDNESDAY'S IKE MOVIE SCHEDULE

Channel 5	Channel 6	Channel 7	Channel 8
9 a.m. Big Daddy	9 a.m. For a Few Dollars More	9 a.m. Beverly Hills Cop	9 a.m. Navy Cash Card
11 a.m. Flushed Away	11 a.m. Firefox	11 a.m. Flight Plan	11 a.m. Identifying and Reducing Fatigue
1 p.m. Little Man	1 p.m. Any Which Way You Can	1 p.m. The Last Legion	1 p.m. Suicide Awareness
3 p.m. Big Daddy	3 p.m. For a Few Dollars More	3 p.m. Beverly Hills Cop	3 p.m. Navy Cash Card
5 p.m. Flushed Away	5 p.m. Firefox	5 p.m. Flight Plan	5 p.m. Identifying and Reducing Fatigue
7 p.m. IKE News	7 p.m. IKE News	7 p.m. IKE News	7 p.m. Suicide Awareness
8:30 p.m. License to Wed	8:30 p.m. A Fistful of Dollars	8:30 p.m. Valkyrie	8:30 p.m. Contemporary Israeli Politics
10 p.m. Little Man	10 p.m. Any Which Way You Can	10 p.m. The Last Legion	10 p.m. Navy Cash Card
12 a.m. Big Daddy	12 a.m. For a Few Dollars More	12 a.m. Beverly Hills Cop	12 a.m. Identifying and Reducing Fatigue
2 a.m. Flushed Away	2 a.m. Firefox	2 a.m. Flight Plan	2 a.m. Suicide Awareness
4 a.m. Little Man	4 a.m. Any Which Way You Can	4 a.m. The Last Legion	4 a.m. Navy Cash Card